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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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TO : Department of State

INFO : USCINCSO FOR POLAD, DOD, Amembassies SAN JOSE, SAN SALVADOR, TEGUCIGALPA

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

SUBJECT: BIWEEKLY INTERNAL SECURITY REPORT: September 13, 1968

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REF :
VIEWED BY *Caj* DATE 7 OCT 1968

PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

Status of Investigation of Ambassador's Assassination

This document consists
of 2 pages. Copy 1
of 8 copies. Series A.ANALYSIS
DATE: 14 Sep 1968

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SEP 17 1968

Only one brief note at the end of a newspaper article identified the detained individual as "Iguana."

2. According to official releases a police patrol saw three men ripping down reward posters picturing those wanted in connection with the assassination. When an officer chased one into an urban bus, the youth fired from the rear of the vehicle and killed him. As he tried to flee, other members of the patrol nabbed him. The other two escaped.

3. The suicide of Janet Michele FIRK Burgos (possibly falsified identification) attracted wide attention throughout the week. Firk, bearer of a French passport, was definitely identified as the woman who rented both cars used in the assassination. She was also reportedly the mistress of Carlos Francisco ORDONEZ Monteagudo, "Camilo." At 2300 September 8 police knocked on the door of her house in Zone 11. A woman's voice answered, "I'm coming"; then a shot was fired. Police broke in and found the body of a 30-year-old woman shot through the roof of the mouth, a .45 caliber weapon found nearby. The release states that the house contained small printing press, Mimeograph, propaganda and a considerable number of documents concerning persons implicated in subversive activities

4. Security officials also link the activities of three other guerrillas killed during the week to the assassination. They are:

a. Waldemir GARCIA Hernandez, aka "King Kong," who was killed

by police on September 6 as he attempted to flee from a bar where

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GUATEMALA A-537

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police were about to begin an identity check. Reportedly, police chased Garcia several blocks and finally shot him down as he readied a grenade.

b. Mario Francisco LEMUS Chavarria, aka "Efigenio," who was killed in a gunfight at Jalpatagua, Jutiapa, on September 7. Security forces, reportedly acting on a tip, had surrounded a house in Jalpatagua and ordered the inhabitants to come out. Shooting began and one officer was killed by a grenade. Lemus has been identified as a top FAR leader. Two other still unidentified men were killed in the same raid.

c. Augusto GONZALEZ Sanabria, aka "El Barco," who allegedly committed suicide in a Zone 1 building where he had fled from pursuing National Policemen. Gonzalez reportedly was the Chief of the Southern Command of the FAR. Authorities report that he was carrying a list of the other members of his command as well as other documents linking him with the assassination.

We have no evidence that any one of these three was, in fact, involved with the death of Ambassador Mein.

5. On the evening of September 5 powerful bombs exploded at the street doors of buildings housing offices of the Chamber of Industry and the Agricultural Association causing several thousand dollars of damage but no deaths. Next morning a passenger in a passing car fired two rounds in the general direction of the Embassy Chancery in Zone 1.

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